

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 19 JAN 51

SUBJECT Methods of Forced Extraction of
Agricultural Produce from the
Peasants

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1. Drastic measures have been taken in recent weeks to extract the absolute maximum of produce from the peasants. In the rich Macva area, where there are very large peasant villages of 10,000 to 12,000 inhabitants, police are called in from the surrounding towns and villages to surround a particular village. They then close in and make a house-to-house search, removing all stores of agricultural produce they find.
2. The prison at Obrenovac is full of peasants who have been unable or have refused to contribute their quota of agricultural produce. Numbers of them have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from five to twenty years with confiscation of property. One peasant, Ceda Bogicevic, who was unable to fulfill his quota of corn by four kilograms, was sent to prison. Similar measures are being taken in and around Lazarevac, Smederevo, and in other districts.

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Comment: The Macva district is approximately that enclosed by Zvornik, Sabac, Bijeljina and Mitrovica. At the elections earlier this year the highest percentages of votes against the Government were recorded in this area.

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